GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:940
ANSWERED ON:08.02.2017
Improper Use of Radioactive Materials
Tharoor Dr. Shashi

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a)whether incidents of illegal or improper use of radioactive materials have come to the notice of the Government;

(b)if so, the details thereof,including the action taken against them;

(c)whether the Government is considering to introduce a bill to give more powers to the nuclear regulatory authority to deal with such incidents; and

(d)if so, the details thereof and if not,the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (Dr. JITENDRA SINGH) :

(a)No, Sir.

(b)Not applicable.

(c)&(d)Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) have adequate powers to carry out its regulatory and safety functions envisaged under sections 16,17 and 23 of the Atomic Energy Act, 1962 and the following rules framed there under:-

â€¢Atomic Energy (Working of the Mines, Minerals and Handling of Prescribed Substance) Rules, 1984.

â€¢Atomic Energy (Safe Disposal of Radioactive Wastes) Rules, 1987
â€¢Atomic Energy (Factories) Rules, 1996
â€¢Atomic Energy (Control of Food Irradiation) Rules, 1996
â€¢Atomic Energy (Radiation Protection) Rules, 2004

Besides, AERB is also empowered to perform the functions under section 10(1) (powers of entry) and 11(1) (powers to take samples) of Environmental Protection Act, 1986 and Rule 12 (agency to which information on excess discharge of pollutants to be given) of the Environmental Protection (Amendment) Rules, 1987 with respect to radioactive substances.
****